

GERMANS FEAR BIG DRIVE IN WEST AND RE-ENFORCE LINES

Dispatches From Holland Tell of Daily Troop Movements From Belgium.

GREAT OFFENSIVE IS NEAR

Prophecy of Coordinated Attack on Both Fronts Seen in French Statement.

LONDON, June 15.—The Germans, apprehensive of a big allied offensive on the west front, are continually re-enforcing their lines there, dispatches from Holland agree.

From Knoke, in the Belgian territory occupied by the Germans, troop-trains are going toward the front in a never-ending procession. These are covered with green boughs to prevent the allied airmen from seeing them readily.

On the streets here, in the clubs, in the restaurants and on the trains, persons discuss with marked interest the cryptic sentence in the French semi-official statement in the French semi-official statement.

"The Germans in front of Verdun are maintaining an attitude of expectation in view of the menace of events which they feel are becoming more and more imminent."

It is most likely that the big drive is soon to start—to start at the strategic moment when the increasing momentum of the Russian drive will leave the German commanders with no choice but to have their line smashed somewhere either in France or Russia.

According to special dispatches from Petrograd, the Russians are withholding their strength on the center and are driving hard westward on both flanks. It is believed in Petrograd, according to these dispatches, that the further development of General Brusilov's victory will depend largely on the progress of Russia's western allies' general strategy.

The entente allies are now all in touch by wireless and their co-ordination in strategy has reached a point never before achieved in the course of the war.

British Ready to Strike

When Joffre Gives Word

NEW YORK, June 15.—Great interest has been aroused in Paris by a statement made by General Joffre in the Matin that the British army was completely in accord with General Joffre and was prepared to move whenever the French headquarters staff saw fit, according to a Paris dispatch to the New York Times.

The statement is accepted as a sufficient answer to the charge of British indifference to the French losses before Verdun. The press expresses much satisfaction over General Joffre's frank statement. From the outset the military authorities here have insisted that it would be playing Germany's game for the British to have before the psychological moment, and have accused anti-British rumors as idle or malicious gossip.

General Joffre's statement will go far to reassure the people here.

Signs of a British Offensive.

There is reason to believe that in addition to the great Russian offensive under way against the Austrians, another has been begun against the Germans on the northern part of that line, while a third is about to be launched by the British in the west if that line is not already under way.

For weeks there have been unmistakable signs of a great British offensive impending which would be about the same distance from Arras. In the last week in March the British replaced the French as far as the River railway, south of the Somme, and thus occurred a front of about ninety miles, or a quarter of the entire western front.

The substitution of British for French troops in the southern sector of the French going, it is believed, to the Verdun defenses, was made without any offensive on the part of the Germans.

Offensive Expected.

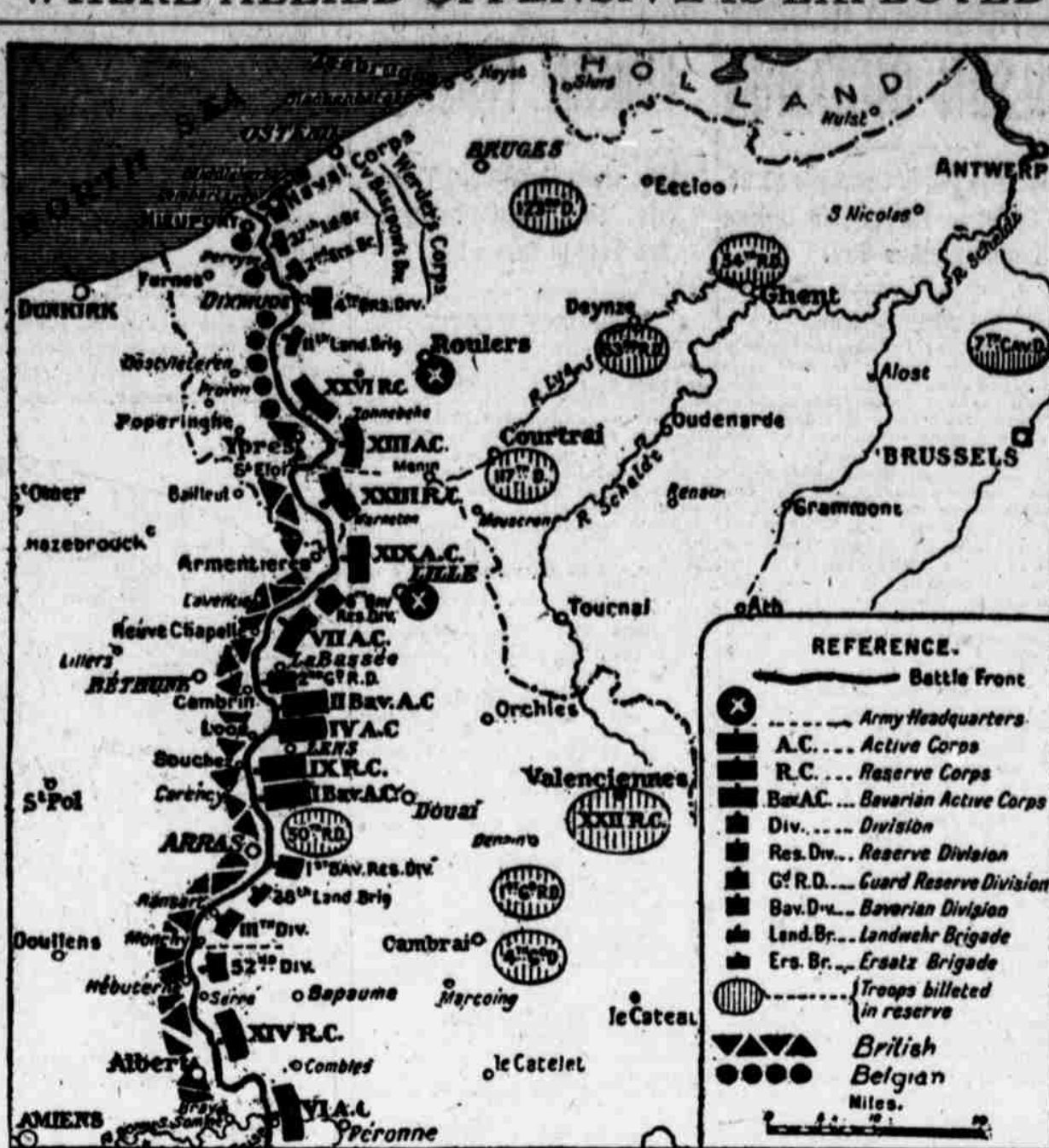
Prior to the beginning of the German campaign against Verdun on February 21 a British offensive had been expected by visitors to the British concentration camps, parade grounds, and storerooms in the rear of the British front. Particularly was this so when a great movement of German troops was observed going east and south in the week of February 18, through Central Belgium and Northern France. However, subsequently the gigantic proportions of the German offensive at Verdun were said to have diminished the chances of an offensive by the allies in the near future, as it was pointed out that the defense of Verdun must necessarily make great inroads on their accumulations of munitions and men.

It had unofficially transpired, however, that in the defense of Verdun the French had not gone beyond the use of their local reserves, save for the veterans who had been transferred from the western sector, and that the reserve force of 136 and 197 conscripts of 1,000 men and the veteran Territorial army of another million had not been touched.

Besides, the British had been helping our gallant ally in his magnificent resistance at Verdun. General Joffre's message of thanks to Sir Douglas Haig has been quoted in our press as evidence of this.

It seems reasonable to infer that the "thanks" were for the release of the French troops in the line we have taken over, and that the glory of the defense

WHERE ALLIED OFFENSIVE IS EXPECTED



Map shows the portions of the western front held almost entirely by the Belgian and British forces. The remnant of the Belgian army under King Albert occupies the line from the North Sea to near Lizerne, about six miles north-northeast of Ypres. The British army, under General Harg, is entrenched from above Lizerne to the Somme river. In a straight line these points are about sixty-eight miles apart, the trenches held by the British probably exceed ninety miles in length. "At certain points in the line," said a recent British writer, "French troops afford valuable resistance." One of these points is near the junction of the Belgian and British forces, where French artillery has been stationed for many months. The map also shows in detail the location of various elements of the German forces, as known in London two months ago.

of Verdun belongs wholly and solely to the army of France.

"Although the hour of the British army may be at hand, it is not yet, nor is there any reason to believe that the Germans will succeed by their attacks upon Verdun in their undoubted purpose of trying to upset the prearranged strategy of the great coming offensive."

Weak Points Revealed.

Then on May 15, Sir Douglas Haig, the British commander in chief in France, penned his report describing the last five months of fighting on his front. In this report some of the most recent engagements which, from Berlin and even London, were designated as "force drives" on the part of the Germans are herein calmly set down as "sharp local actions" near Hooze, The Bluff, St. Eloi, Wulverghem, Hulluch, the Hohenzollern Redoubt, and Vermeles.

These "sharp local actions," however, reveal the points in the German line which would need readjustment in the face of a British offensive. The strategy of the line remains what it was when the British made their salient at Ypres in October, 1914, and at Neuve Chapelle in March, 1915, and at Loos in September, 1915.

For as far as the Germans may feed their line with men and munitions over the railways a British offensive at Ypres would dominate the German front in the Artois, while an offensive in the latter would jeopardize the German lines of communication to the Champagne, Lille, Lens, Douai, and St. Quentin.

would be the natural objectives of said offensives. In the north arm of the allies have observed that the Germans have rebuilt the French fortifications at Lille, Roubaix, Maubeuge, Landrecies, Hirson, La Perre, and Laon, while in the south they have prepared three lines of defense in case an offensive were delivered in the Champagne by the French as in September last, and the Germans were still able to defend their right center where the British then, as now, threatened their chief railway junctions and bases.

Strength of British Forces.

From the internal evidence of Sir Douglas Haig's report of May 15 the British have 450,000 on the line and the Germans 500,000. It is a well-known fact that the Germans keep the bulk of their forces on the firing line, while the French and English, unless attacked, do not have more than a third of their forces exposed in the normal condition of a dormant front. They depend on the vigilance of their officers on the first line to notice the signs of an attack in force on the part of the enemy when the reserve can be brought up. They thus save thousands of lives during the daily artillery duels while the Germans do not.

In these circumstances the British force under Sir Douglas Haig should be about 1,350,000 men. Opposite him there are forty German divisions, exclusive of cavalry, or 800,000 men of all ranks. This aggregate, according to a British military expert, "may represent in combatants 500,000 rifles and over 3,000 guns."

It is an accountable concentration, and we must further assume that the drafts to make good losses are in the field depots behind the German lines."

NEW RUSSIAN SHELL HAS DEADLY EFFECT

PETROGRAD, June 15.—The Russian artillery has been magnificent throughout this war, but on the present occasion has exceeded its own highest records.

The effect upon the enemy has been terrifying, and a general panic usually has ensued, for the Russians have invented a new shell and have used it in incredible quantities. Its deadly results are seen in the official bulletins.

Nothing can be said, of course, about the nature of the new shell. Apparently it admits of no effective defensive reply. The universities of Russia have been busily employed for twelve months past vying with one another in a search for some superlative form of effective shell.

French Deputies Probe Defenses Around Verdun

PARIS, June 15.—The French Chamber of Deputies went into secret session this afternoon to interpellate the government on the defensive preparations made by France prior to the attack at Verdun.

RUSS DRIVE ON AFTER TAKING CZERNOWITZ

Czar's Army Threatens to Cut Communications Between Lemberg and Front.

(Continued from First Page.)

a more decisive blow than the taking of Czernowitz. The total of prisoners taken by the Russians is now more than 150,000, according to the official Petrograd announcement of yesterday.

Czernowitz Evacuated By Austrian Defenders

PETROGRAD (via London), June 15.—The Austrians have evacuated Czernowitz, capital of Bukovina, according to dispatches to the semi-official Petrograd News Agency from Bukowing by way of Bucharest.

The Russian advance along the whole southwestern front continues to develop with a degree of swiftness which has astonished the country. The success of the movement thus far is looked upon as the more remarkable in view of the strong defenses which had been erected by the Austrians during the long period of preparation and their supposed readiness for resistance to any manner of assault.

The outstanding features are the steadily mounting number of prisoners, augmented by the surrender of large

Austrian units in their entirety, the wholesale abandonment of military trains and all sorts of field equipment in such enormous quantities that they cannot yet be estimated, and, finally, so far as is known here, the comparatively small extent of Russian losses.

Except in the center of the front, which runs from Volhynia to the Rumanian border, the Austrians have been wholly unable to resist the Russian drive.

In the vicinity of Tarnopol the opposing forces are still in deadlock, but on both flanks, in the Lutske region and in the Dniester sector, the breach made in the Austrian lines is widening constantly.

A wedge has been driven into the Austrian lines from Dniester toward Sokal. This wedge has penetrated thirty miles into the Austrian lines, and the breadth of the breach made has been increased to sixty miles. Another important breach extends for thirty miles between the Dniester and the Pruth.

The Russian occupation of Sniatyn, Galiets, and the sector of the Verdun front, east bank of the Neuse, last night says the French official statement today. All of the attacks were repulsed. At times the French artillery fire was so heavy that Germans were killed in their trenches before they were able to flee.

"On the west bank of the Neuse," said the statement, "the Germans launched seven counter-attacks on the slope of Dead Man's Hill. All of these

were repulsed, the French imprisoning 150 Germans.

"On the east bank, toward 4 p. m., the Germans made a powerful offensive north of Thiamont farm from Hill 231 to 230. All the attacks were checked by the fire of our machine guns, the Germans losing heavily. Further attacks were launched at 10 p. m. on the edge of Callette woods. These were checked by French curtain fire. The Germans were unable at some points to jump out of their trenches."

ALMOST FAINTED WHILE STANDING

And Suffered Dreadfully from Headaches, Backache and Dizziness. Says now that it's Foolish for people to suffer like that.

"I know now it's foolish for people to suffer from headaches, backache, dizziness, constipation, pains in back, gas on the stomach, and nervousness," said Mrs. C. M. Hauser, of 211 Sixth street northeast, recently, a well-known lady of that section. "I suffered like that, and almost fainted several times. My liver was very inactive and caused me plenty of trouble; also the constipation and gastritis was awful. My husband was always a great believer in root and herb medicines, so I bought a bottle of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. From the very first it helped me, and I have now finished two bottles and all my troubles have disappeared. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are in my case, and I gladly recommend it to everyone." Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold at all the O'Donnell Drug Stores, Bury's, in Anacostia, Allen's, in Alexandria.—Adv.

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OUR PRICE, \$2.95

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